

## **PARENT CONSENT FORM**

### Working Memory in Education

#### **A. PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND**

Misty Swanger in Ashland University's Leadership Studies Program is conducting a quasi-experimental research study on working memory in education. Your child is being asked to participate in this study.

#### **B. PROCEDURES**

If you agree for your child to be in the study, the following will occur:

1. \_\_\_\_\_ (child's name) will complete a pre-assessment on both working memory and cognitive ability. The working memory assessment will be completed on a computer and the cognitive ability test will be completed in a small group setting.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ (child's name) will be given a user name and password to complete an online brain-training program. This program will be in a game format and will be completed three times a week for 30 minutes each session.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ (child's name) will complete a post assessment on both working memory and cognitive ability. The working memory assessment will be completed on a computer and the cognitive ability test will be completed in a small group setting.
4. Pseudonyms will be used on data and additionally, all identifying information will be removed or changed to maintain the confidentiality of all subjects.
5. Parents may submit a written request for access to their child's scores at the end of the intervention and testing, in June 2013.

#### **C. RISKS/DISCOMFORTS**

1. Some of the questions might be difficult to answer, however it is important for your child to answer all of them honestly and to the best of his or her ability.
2. Participation in this research will involve no loss of privacy and your child's records will be handled confidentially.

**D. BENEFITS AND USES OF DATA**

This study provides an opportunity for schools to learn about a training program that may or may not be able to enhance student learning. Misty Swanger will use the information for her doctoral dissertation at Ashland University. No publication or presentation of the study’s results will contain any identification of students who participated in the study.

**E. COSTS/PAYMENT**

There will be no costs to your student as a result of taking part in this study. You will receive no payment for your participation in this study and you will not lose anything if you do not participate in this study.

**F. QUESTIONS**

You have the opportunity to ask Misty Swanger any questions about this study. Please contact Misty Swanger via email at [mswanger@ashland.edu](mailto:mswanger@ashland.edu) You may also contact the chair of this dissertation: Dr. Carla Edlefsen at [cedlefs@ashland.edu](mailto:cedlefs@ashland.edu)

The Ashland University Human Subjects Review Board regulates research ethics at Ashland University. If you have concerns, contact Dr. Brent Mattingly, Chair, phone: (419) 289-5342, or e-mail: [bmatting@ashland.edu](mailto:bmatting@ashland.edu)

**G. CONSENT**

You will be given a copy of this consent form to keep.

PARTICIPATION IN RESEARCH IS VOLUNTARY. Your child is free to decline to be in this study, or to withdraw from it at any point. You and your child’s decision as to whether or not to participate in this study will have no influence on the present or future status of your child.

If you agree to participate, you should sign below.

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Date

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Signature of Parent/Guardian of Participant